# Catholic TIM

The Diocese of Columbus' Information Source

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MLK Day celebration: The annual MLK Day celebration in the diocese took place again this year at Columbus Holy Rosary-St. John Church, where attendées heard a featured presentation on Dr. Martin Luther King from Andrea Pannell, Page 3



Saving lives at PDHC: Babies are being saved at Pregnancy Decision Health Centers, which received a record number of visits at its clinics in Columbus and Lancaster in 2021 as well as an all-time high in calls, texts and chats as PDHC began to offer the abortion pill reversal, Page 6



Mission work in Belize: A child is pictured with rosaries made by a former columbus resident and others to be used in Belize, where an effort is underway to raise money to complete a church near the remove village of San Pablo,, Page 11



# DIOCESAN FAITHFUL COME TOGETHER TO PRAY FOR RESPECT FOR ALL LIFE

Catholic Times **2** 

# Rally speakers optimistic about Roe v. Wade reversal

By Tim Puet For The Catholic Times

Anticipation that this will be the year the U.S. Supreme Court reverses its Roe v. Wade decision legalizing abortion in the United States was the principal theme of speakers at this year's Roe Remembrance event at the Ohio Statehouse Atrium.

"I'm prayerfully optimistic that this will be the year Roe v. Wade is committed to the dustbin of history," said Beth Vanderkooi, executive director of Greater Columbus Right to Life, sponsor of the rally that annually marks the anniversary of the decision. This year's rally took place on Monday, Jan. 24 to give those in attendance a chance to participate in the annual March for Life in Washington on Friday, Jan. 21. The decision was issued on Jan. 22, 1973.

The Supreme Court is reviewing a case titled Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health that seeks to overturn Mississippi's ban on nearly all abortions starting at 15 weeks of pregnancy. Upholding the ban would have the effect of overturning Roe v. Wade and would return the power to ban or restrict abortions to each state.



Msgr. Stephan Moloney, diocesan administrator, delivers the homily at the annual diocesan Respect Life Mass at St. Joseph Cathedral.

CT photos by Ken Snow

About 400 people attended the Statehouse event and heard talks by Vanderkooi, state Auditor Keith Faber, state Rep. Tracy Richardson (R-Marysville) and Teresa Potts of Pregnancy Decision Health Centers (PDHC). The rally was preceded by a Respect Life Mass at Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral celebrated by Father Stephan Moloney, diocesan apostolic



Students from Columbus St. Charles Preparatory School were among the faithful attending the Respect Life Mass on Monday, Jan. 24 at St. Joseph Cathedral.

administrator and vicar general.

"I'm very hopeful that next year, you won't need a March for Life in Washington," said Faber, a Republican from Celina who has been auditor since 2019 and was a state legislator for 16 years. "We've learned the hard way (through the results of the 2016 and 2020 presidential elections) that presidential elections matter, Supreme Courts matter and judges matter."

Referring to people who say they don't know when life begins, he said, "Where else do we err on the side of death? Only on the abortion issue. ... (Supporters of abortion are) unable to answer that question because they don't have an answer and are unwilling to err on the side of life. We (prolife forces) do err in favor of protecting life. ... Right to Life organizations will be more important than ever this year because the battle over abortion will be going back to the states."

Richardson, who represents Union and Marion counties in the Ohio House, said she was not always a proponent of the pro-life cause, but "a major conversion" when she was 22 made her an activist. "Why do you

know life begins at conception?" she asked. "It's by God's grace that you know this. When you pray for life, remember to pray for others to receive the grace to know what you know. Be people of hope. We are the people of life and of hope."

Potts, who represented PDHC, said she has been with the organization for 10 years and currently is part of its abortion pill reversal program. She said it took many years to recover from the effects of two abortions she had – one in her senior year of high school and the other in her senior year of college.

Before her initial abortion, "I kept telling myself I couldn't be killing a baby. At the abortion clinic, they said it was a blob of tissue, but in my heart I knew I was fooling myself," she said. The second time, she didn't know who would care for the child while she was attending school, "and Satan made me rush into the decision without thinking it through. The shame was unbearable. I felt I was

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Front Page photo:
RESPECT FOR LIFE
Erin Young is joined by her children, (from left) Lucas, 5, Isaac,
2, and Gianna, 4, at the Roe
Remembrance on Monday, Jan.
24 at the Ohio Statehouse. They
are members of Sunbury St. John
Neumann Church.

CT photo by Ken Snow

# Catholic TIMES

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January 30, 2022

# MLK Day celebration highlights King's pursuit of justice, equality

Andrea Pannell, vice president of stewardship for The Catholic Foundation, delivered the keynote address at the annual MLK Day celebration at Columbus Holy Rosary-St. John Church on Monday, Jan. 17.

Those who turned out despite an overnight snowstorm that inhibited travel listened as Pannell pointed out that Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s famous "I Have a Dream" speech was given in Washington, D.C., during a march for jobs and freedom in 1963, five years before the Baptist minister and civil rights activist was assassinated in Memphis, Tenn., in 1968.

"It is extremely important that we understand that he continued to fight for racial justice, human dignity, and the rights of the poor for almost five years after that march on Washington," she said.

"We don't hear much about those days — what might be called the silent days. Those days, months and years Martin described as difficult and agonizing. Days not void of hope, he assured, yet days of his coming to a renewed realization: That the dream I had (referring to his famous speech) has at many points turned into a nightmare."

King, she said, through contemplation and soul searching, had begun to realize that his optimism was somewhat superficial and must be tempered with a solid realism. "A realism that they had a long, long way still to go; a journey that was not nearly over," Pannell said.

"You see, Martin grappled, sparred, debated, explained and fought with those for whom his dream had become their nightmare."

Living a self-described journey of unfulfilled dreams, Rev. King was shot and killed while standing on the balcony of the Lorraine Hotel in April 1968

"Life is a journey of unfulfilled dreams," he told the



Andrea C. Pannell presents the keynote address at the MLK Day celebration on Monday, Jan. 17 at Columbus Holy Rosary-St. John Church.



Mary Carter Roberts, a member of Holy Rosary-St.

John Church, participates in the celebration.

CT photos by Ken Snow

people on that ill-fated morning in '68. "Thank God, this morning, that we have a heart to put something meaningful in because life is a continual story of shattered dreams. 'Get your heart right! Don't get lost 'cause you nibblin' on sweet grass like lost sheep. Get your heart right! Fix it! Ask Jesus to fix it if you have to! But fix it today!"

Pannell reminded listeners

that King knew intimately that it was the ability to dream that keeps humans anchored when life presents mountains unmovable, rivers uncrossable, and valleys so low the light of the sun cannot be seen.

"We must be an anchored people," he said. "Anchored in the hope of the promise of God. Yes, this is the true seed of faith that Martin was holding onto. A hope and a dream he knew to be seeded by the love of Jesus Christ.

"I've seen the lightning flash," he said. "I've heard the thunder roll. I've felt 'sin breakers' trying to conquer my soul. But I heard the voice of Jesus saying, 'Fight on! Fight on!' He promised never to leave me. Never to leave me alone. Thank you, Jesus! Glory to God!"

# SYNODAL PROCESS MEETINGS REGISTER AT COLUMBUSCATHOLIC.ORG/SYNOD

CENTER SOUTH DEANERY

NORTHWEST DEANERY

NORTH HIGH DEANERY

NORTHLAND DEANERY

EAST DEANERY

**WEST DEANERY** 

MARION DEANERY

KNOX LICKING DEANERY

MUSKINGUM-PERRY DEANERY

TUSCARAWAS-HOLMES-COSHOCTON DEANERY

FAIRFIELD-HOCKING DEANERY

SOUTHERN DEANERY

MARCH 12, 9-11AM - ST. MARY SCHOOL GYM, GERMAN VILLAGE

MARCH 19, 1-3PM - ST. JOAN OF ARC SOCIAL HALL, POWELL

MARCH 12, 1-3 PM - IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MARIAN HALL, COLUMBUS

MARCH 20, 1-3PM - RESURRECTION PARISH SOCIAL HALL, NEW ALBANY

MARCH 13, 5-7PM - ST. PIUS FAMILY LIFE CENTER, REYNOLDSBURG

MARCH 20, 1-3 PM - ST. CECILIA SCHOOL GYM, COLUMBUS

MARCH 19, 9-11AM - OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH CENTER, MARYSVILLE

MARCH 13, 1-3PM - BLESSED SACRAMENT CHURCH, NEWARK

MARCH 12, 9-11AM - BISHOP ROSECRANS HS MEDIA CENTER, ZANESVILLE

MARCH 19, 1-3PM - ST. JOSEPH FAMILY LIFE CENTER, DOVER

MARCH 19, 9-11AM - ST. MARY SPIRIT CENTER, LANCASTER

MARCH 13, 1-3PM - HOLY REDEEMER, PORTSMOUTH

DOVER MARION COLUMBUS MARCH 6, 2:30P - 4:30P - T.C.C.E.S. SCHOOL GYM, DOVER

MARCH 13, 5-7 PM - ST. MARY MOIRA HALL, MARION

MARCH 20, 3-5 PM - ST. PETER MCEWAN CENTER, COLUMBUS

SPANISH

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# Problem, inconvenience or blessing?

I enjoy Robert Fulghum's books. His All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten is one of my favorites.

In it, he acknowledges that what we learned in kindergarten and the sandpile after Sunday School adds up to most of what is necessary to live a meaningful life, and it isn't all that complicated. Here are some of the lessons he cites:

Share everything. Play fair. Don't hit people. Put things back where you found them. Clean up your own mess. Don't take things that aren't yours. Say you're sorry when you hurt somebody. ... Live a balanced life – learn some and think some and draw and paint and sing and dance and play and work some every day. ... When you go out into the world, watch out for traffic, hold hands, and stick together. Wonder. ... And then remember the Dick-and-Jane books and the first word you learned – one of the biggest words of all – LOOK.

We go to school to be introduced to the essentials of being human and to Sunday School (and Catholic schools) to be formed as disciples who live fully the message of Jesus Christ. These lessons are first explained in language a small child understands.

I'm suggesting that we return to a less complicated way of communicating. (I never liked using

# FAITH IN ACTION Erin Cordle

Erin Cordle is associate director of the diocesan Office for Social Concerns.



a methodology; however, I'm more than willing to try a method!)

Here's what I mean. It's hard to explain the cost and consequences of environmental pollution and destruction to a 6-year old. But in kindergarten we learned to clean up your own mess, put things back where you found them and don't take what's not yours.

Another lesson we quickly learned is that we need each other. This has been reaffirmed by the arrival of my great-nephew, Torin, on Jan. 5.

Through our baptism, we are forever connected with the Trinity and called to help build God's kingdom. We are called to community with family, friends, companions, the Church, etc. Remember those "when you go out into the world, watch out for traffic, hold hands and stick together" lessons?

These past COVID years have challenged our abilities to connect with one another and to look past our needs to see the needs of others. So much

around us is in chaos. However, there is hope and a need to keep things in perspective.

My favorite Fulghum book is *Uh-oh*. When I read this book about 40-plus years ago, I was struck by one of Fulghum's experiences as a young man working at a resort where families came for "the season."

He ranted about his problem with the staff dinner menus to a night bookkeeper. When Fulghum had talked himself out, the bookkeeper calmly explained the difference between a problem and an inconvenience.

Bottom line, the bookkeeper survived the Holocaust. He cited the need to understand the difference between not liking the menu and not having food at all. He said Fulghum needed to understand the difference between a lump in his oatmeal, his throat and his breast.

An inconvenience might become a problem; it also might become a blessing. This year will provide many opportunities to identify problems, inconveniences and blessings. We get to decide.

I pray that we save our best energy for problems and that we put our trust in God to give us strength to meet whatever arises and to see the blessings in all the challenges we face.

# Russia, Ukraine and moral reckoning

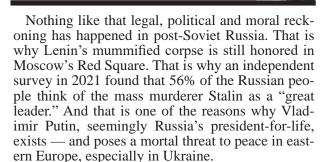
There have been vast improvements in the techniques and technology of filmmaking since 1961, when Stanley Kramer made *Judgment at Nuremberg*. But it's difficult to imagine any cast today improving on the extraordinary performances of Spencer Tracy, Burt Lancaster, Maximilian Schell, Marlene Dietrich, Richard Widmark, Judy Garland and Montgomery Clift in that gripping courtroom drama, which explores the meaning of justice in Germany's — and the world's — moral reckoning with the evil of the Third Reich.

The Nuremberg trials, which lasted for several years, were not flawless. Serious jurists and public officials ask whether "victors' justice" could be true justice, while others questioned the rectitude of indicting men for crimes that were not defined statutorily at the time they were committed. That Soviet hack Andrey Vishinsky was a prosecutor at the first Nuremberg trial was nothing less than grotesque; Vishinsky had first come to international attention as a prosecutor in Stalin's infamous Purge Trials, in which he urged the "court" to deal with his former Bolshevik comrades in these terms: "Shoot these rabid dogs ... Let's put an end once and for all to these miserable hybrids of foxes and pigs, these stinking corpses ..."

Whatever the flaws of the Nuremberg trials, however, manifestly guilty men and women were held accountable for unspeakable acts of wickedness. The trials also confronted the German people with what had been done by public officials and jurists who claimed to be acting for the good of their country. Germany is a model democracy today for many reasons. The moral reckoning the Nuremberg trials made unavoidable is one of those reasons.

THE CATHOLIC DIFFERENCE George Weigel

George Weigel is the Distinguished Senior Fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, D.C.



Putin is conducting a carefully-orchestrated campaign to reverse history's verdict in the Cold War and subjugate the now-independent former "republics" of the old Soviet Union. That campaign would not have been possible if, having confronted the hard truths about the Soviet past as the German people were compelled to do by the Nuremberg trials, the Russian people had built a law-governed Russian state. What happened instead was that ex-KGB apparatchik Putin and a cadre of oligarchs built a lawless kleptocracy that murders its political opponents, invades its neighbors, conducts massive disinformation and destabilization campaigns around the world, shuts down non-governmental organizations dedicated to memorializing the victims of communism and masquerades as the defender of "Christian" civilization, all at tremendous cost to the Russian people. Because there was no "Russian

Nuremberg," a 15-year-old boy in Russia in 2012 had a life-expectancy three years lower than that of a 15-year-old boy in Haiti.

Vladimir Putin's current aggression against Ukraine also deploys the Big Lie that Ukraine is not a real nation — a malignant falsehood based in part on the claim that Russia is the sole legitimate heir of the baptism of the eastern Slavs. That epic event in fact took place in Kyiv (now the capital of Ukraine) in 988, when what's now Moscow was a dense forest inhabited by wild animals. The subsequent history of eastern Slavic Christianity is vastly complicated, to be sure. Those complexities notwithstanding, the Russian claim to be the sole proprietor and interpreter of that history is theological and historical nonsense — just as the Russian stance toward Ukraine since at least the late-18th century has been that of imperial aggressor. In 1932-33, that aggression turned into a genocide, when, in the Ukrainian Holodomor ("Terror Famine"), Stalin and his minions deliberately starved to death at least four million Ukrainians.

Putin's Russian regime is a danger to the Russian people and the world, and will likely remain so, until the kind of moral and historical reckoning that took place in Germany after World War II takes place in Russia. The Russian Orthodox Church, which has immense spiritual resources, could play an important role in a national examination of conscience. It will not do so, however, so long as its leader, Patriarch Kirill, teaches, as he did recently, that his country's current social condition is "a manifestation of God's mercy," even as Kirill proclaimed that "Russia is the leader of the free world."

George Orwell, call your office.

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# Refresh, renew with Jesus at women's, men's conferences

It is both holy and healthful to attend the Columbus Catholic Women's and Men's conferences as it is an opportunity to refresh and renew both body and soul.

The Columbus Catholic Women's Conference is Saturday, Feb. 19, and the Columbus Catholic Men's Conference is Saturday, Feb. 26. Both will take place at the Ohio Expo Center (state fairgrounds). Register at www.columbuscatholicwomen.com and https://www.catholicmensministry.com/catholicmensconference.

Conference participants are invited to share in Mass, Adoration and reconciliation and enjoy beautiful music and fellowship with thousands of women/men at all ages and stages of life and faith.

This year, I have been blessed to help register vendors and religious sisters for the vendor hall at the women's conference. So many organizations, businesses and religious communities are joining us again this year to share their missions. Jesus works through them to reach us so that we know His great love for us.

A couple of years ago, I invited a friend to the conference, and we arrived very early because I was a vendor. She walked around and visited with vendors before the crowds arrived.

She loved that time to learn the missions of so many caring organizations, share her story and be

### HOLY AND HEALTHY Lori Crock

Lori Crock is a parishioner at Plain City St. Joseph Church. Lori leads SoulCore Rosary prayer and exercise at parishes, teaches physical strength classes and writes about faith and fitness at holyandhealthycatholic.com.

inspired by the varied missions. She said this was a powerful part of her day at the conference, and she was so grateful for it.

I look forward to the conference every year to see how Jesus will surprise me. Our last conference was in 2020 (pre-COVID), and it was my first year to help distribute Holy Communion. I was overwhelmed with joy, to the point of tears, watching 3,500 women walk forward to receive the Eucharist. It filled my heart with so much hope to see how many women had set aside a day to be with Jesus and with their sisters in Christ to love, learn and be inspired.

Another powerful part of the conference is the slate of inspiring speakers. A friend recently reminded me about the importance of talks at conferences as the words and gifts of the speaker can open our hearts to Jesus, heal wounds, inspire, move us in new directions and make us more open to how Jesus desires to work in our lives.

Sometimes I take notes furiously while listening to speakers, and other times I feel prompted to rest at the feet of Jesus and be fed by the speaker's inspired words.

Prayer teams are a recent addition to the women's conference, and they move about the gathering throughout the day and will gladly stop and pray with you and for you.

Each year we encourage women and men to invite a friend or family member to join them at the conference. It doesn't matter how active one is in his or her faith. All are welcome — Catholic, Christian, non-Christian, religious sisters and brothers, clergy, those who practice or don't practice their faith, students, parents, singles and the elderly.

All have a place at the table with Jesus. It is truly a day to come and be welcomed and loved by Jesus and by your sisters and brothers in Christ.

It is the hope of the conference planning team that you be refreshed and renewed by God's great love for you.

Please take a moment right now and ask the Holy Spirit whom you should invite to join you at the conference. That personal invitation can be life-changing for you and for them. St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta said, "Do not wait for leaders, do it alone, person to person." May we courageously respond to this call with action!

# Improving your spiritual life with Stones of Medjugorje

By Deb McEllistrem

How can you achieve holiness? Although I don't know of an "express lane to sainthood," I did find something that's made a difference in my life – the Five Stones of Medjugorje.

I know that the reported Marian apparitions in Medjugorje, a town in Bosnia and Herzegovina, haven't been approved by the Church (yet), but it has been declared a Marian shrine, and churches can organize pilgrimages there (which they previously were not allowed to do).

It's also a destination that more than 40 million pilgrims have visited. So, it's clearly a place where faith is a priority. During her messages in Medjugorje, the Blessed Mother gave us five "stones" to use against our Goliath. These are her five main messages:

- Pray with the heart: Our God is the God of love. So, before praying, think of the person (or people) you love most. Let your love for them fill your heart. Then, offer your heart to God the Father. Ask Him to bless everyone who is in your heart. If you have young ones at home, pray with them as a family. Wondering what to pray? I would recommend the rosary.
- Practice fasting: Our dear mother Mary recommends fasting on Wednesdays and Fridays. Although the best fast is on bread and water, we can fast from many things: electronics, smoking, drinking, etc. Fasting on bread and water is one of the most difficult things I've ever done; it's also one of the most effective. After a day of fasting, I feel closer to the Lord.

- Read the Bible daily: During Vatican II, the Church said that all the canonical books of the Bible were "written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, they have God as their author." (Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation) No other book can make that claim. Whether you read for 30 minutes a day or one to two sentences a day, try to keep one item in your heart and live that every day. I find St. Paul's Letter to the Ephesians a good choice. He provides direction on how we should act.
- Go to confession: Recently, I traveled to visit family. The day before my trip, I was anxious. I went to Mass, prayed for peace, asked others to pray for me, but nothing seemed to work. Then, I went to confession. I unburdened myself. I tried to list every single sin and have a heart filled with contrition.

When I was done, the anxiety was gone. I took my trip in peace. This is the power of confession. It can remove every stone in your life.

• Attend Mass: Try to attend daily Mass. As the Church says, the Eucharist is the "source and summit" of our faith. Father Larry Richards recommends that after you've received Jesus, go back to your seat and visualize Jesus holding you. With every heartbeat, Jesus says: "I love you, I love you, I love

you." It's a powerful visualization technique that will improve your day.

These are the Five Stones of Medjugorje. I be-

These are the Five Stones of Medjugorje. I believe a sixth stone exists. That is Our Lady's messages at Medjugorje. If we believe that our Blessed Mother is wholly united with God, then her messages must be consistent with his will and intentions. What better way to get closer to God than to read her messages? Find them at www.medjugorje.org. Start with the messages from 1981, and read them through to today.

God bless you as you make this commitment for 2022. I will pray for you and ask that you pray for me, too.

Deb McEllistrem is a parishioner at Columbus St. Andrew Church.



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# Pregnancy Decision Health Centers aid moms, families

January is Sanctity of Human Life Month, a time to focus on the value of every human life. Sanctity of Human Life Sunday is usually recognized on the third Sunday in January or on the Sunday closest to the anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision by the U.S. Supreme Court on Jan. 22, 1973, that legalized abortion in the United States.

As a result of the historic decision, Pregnancy Decision Health Centers (PDHC) was founded and opened its doors to its first center and 24/7 hotline on the eighth anniversary of Roe

v. Wade, on Jan. 22, 1981.

The original center had 309 visits and 2,800 calls to its hotline in its first year. Forty-one years later, PDHC operates four pregnancy resource centers in Franklin and Fairfield counties, as well as a new family empowerment center, where new moms and dads obtain valuable parenting education and receive practical support, such as diapers, car seats, cribs, clothing and other much needed baby items.

In 2021, PDHC had a record high of more than 10,000 visits to its centers and more than 44,000 calls, texts and chats to its hotline. PDHC was originally known as the Pregnancy Distress Center until the organization changed its name to PDHC in 1995, when ultrasound imaging was added to the services provided to pregnant moms. In the first 41 years, PDHC has con-

tinued to grow, adapt and evolve to meet the needs of women facing unexpected or challenging pregnancies, making them vulnerable to abortion. With the help of Focus on the Family's Option Ultrasound Program, PDHC will be receiving two new 3D/4D ultrasound machines to provide the most advanced technology in ultrasound imaging.

Last year, 9 out of 10 women who saw and heard their baby's heartbeat on an ultrasound image chose life. PDHC is also grateful for the partner-ship of the Knights of Columbus, who are also working to help replace other needed machines.

With the new family empowerment center, PDHC can serve more poeple to strengthen and encourage healthy families. "We walk alongside women and families throughout their pregnancy and beyond, all the way through the first year of their baby's life," said Kathy Scanlon, PDHC president.

PDHC partners with many other

community outreach programs and services to make sure women and families have the resources they need.

"PDHC has been more than pleasant," said Mariah, a PDHC client.
"They checked in with me throughout my pregnancy and to remind me I was in their thoughts and prayers! It's safe to say it was God's will, and I am exactly where I am supposed to be

with my baby girl born October 2021. I couldn't be happier than this present moment, thank you for your prayers and support.'

According to the Ohio Department of Health statistics from 2020, 80% of abortions in Franklin County were via the abortion pill, known as a chemical abortion. The abortion involves two pills: mifepristone and misoprostol.

A woman usually takes the first pill at an abortion facility and the second pill at home, often cramping, bleeding and passing her child alone.

As a result, PDHC joined Heartbeat International's Abortion Pill Rescue Network and now offers Abortion Pill Reversal (APR) services. If a woman changes her mind after taking the first pill, she has about 72 hours to reverse her abortion decision, and PDHC stands ready to help.

"When I took the abortion pill, I had immediate regret," said Tina, whose name was changed to protect her privacy. "I found PDHC, and, after starting the reversal medication, I was so relieved. I really appreciate everything PDHC did for me." Tina's healthy baby boy was born in July 2020.

Another mom who reversed her abortion through APR at PDHC said, "Without PDHC, I wouldn't have the option of being a mom to my beautiful, healthy daughter. You helped me after I made a bad decision, and I am

forever grateful."

PDHC also provides healthy choice education to middle and high school students in Franklin and Fairfield counties as part of its youth development program. The education team provides evidenced-based information, along with humor and sincerity, to effectively address topics such as teen pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, decision making, substance abuse, healthy relationships and media influence.

"I thought it was one of the greatest speaker presentations I have ever seen," a high school student said. "Easily the greatest four days I have spent in this class. Thank you.'

For individuals struggling from a recent or past abortion decision, PDHC's abortion recovery (aR) program provides hope and a comprehensive, heal-

ing journey through various services.
One participant said, "My experience at aR was life changing!"
If you or someone you know is strug-

gling from a past abortion experience, call or text the aR hotline at (614)-721-2100 or go to OurChoiceOurVoice. org to begin your healing journey.

PDHC is celebrating 41 years of res-

cuing lives and impacting families for generations. If you or someone you know is pregnant and needs help, contact PDHC through the 24/7 hotline at (614)-444-4411 or go to pdhc.org.





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### **RESPECT LIFE,** continued from Page 2



Bernard Schlueter (left) and Judy Schlueter, holding her granddaughter, 5-month-old Estelle Bede, attended the Roe Remembrance on Jan. 24. The Schlueters' daughter, Rachel Bede, is in front of them looking at her baby. In the foreground are Rachel's children (from left), Henes, 10, Beatrice, 7, and Cora, 12.

running away from God," Potts said.

After several difficult years, she joined a faith-based organization, but she didn't come to the realization that God had forgiven her until taking part in a three-day retreat. "I realized there that God loved me," she said. "I asked where He wanted me to serve Him, and He said, 'I want you to volunteer at PDHC."

Potts said she has helped many post-abortive women regain faith and trust in God but only because she allowed God back into her life. She said she would tell anyone dealing with the effects of abortion, "Get help. If we aren't healed ourselves, we can't point post-abortive men and women to healing. God wants us to be healed and to accept his love and forgiveness."

In closing remarks, Vanderkooi noted that more than 62 million children have lost their lives to abortion in the 49 years Roe v. Wade has been in effect. "A similar number – if not more - of mothers, fathers, grandparents and siblings carry the heavy emotional and spiritual burden of what was done, all of it a senseless tragedy."

She said that although about 20,600 babies died by abortion last year in Ohio, including 3,500 in Franklin County, "we know that the things we do are making a difference," noting that the latter number represented a 12 percent decrease from 2020. Vanderkooi said this was made possible be-



A crowd of approximately 400 people packed into the Atrium at the Ohio Statehouse on Monday, Jan. 24 for the annual Roe Remembrance to listen to speakers who expressed optimism that Roe v. Wade, the 1973 U.S. Supreme Court ruling on abortion, will soon be overturned. CT photos by Ken Snow



Dominican novices from St. Gertrude Priory in Cincinnati ended the rally as they have the past several years with the singing of the Marian hymn Salve Regina (Hail, Holy Queen).

cause of the work done by the pro-life community, "most especially the persistent and loving witness of pro-life and pro-love missionaries on the sidewalks outside of central Ohio abortion clinics."

"As we leave in a spirit of prayerful optimism, we profess the truth that abortion hurts women, and we present the truth that the unborn child deserves better than abortion," she said.

The Respect Life Mass was celebrated on the feast day of St. Francis de Sales, principal patron of the Diocese of Columbus. In his homily, Msgr. Moloney said to the cathedral congregation, "When you preach the Gospel of Life, preach it with love, for (quoting St. Francis de Sales' motto)

'He who preaches with love preaches effective-

ly.'
"Gentle persistence, simplicity and patient persuasion will more be effective than the harsh, shouted words and raucous noise of



organizer of the Roe Remembrance, presents some opening remarks at the Ohio Statehouse.

our opposition," he said.

Last year's Respect Life Mass was interrupted by a handful of protesters who shouted pro-abortion slogans and walked up the cathedral's center aisle near the end of the homily before being escorted out of the building. The protesters also disrupted the Statehouse rally, which took place outdoors because of COVID restrictions, with chanting and portable loudspeakers. No protests took place at either of this year's events.

The invocation for the rally was given by Father Seth Keller, parochial vicar at Columbus St. Cecilia Church, and the benediction was by Father Michael Mary Dosch, OP, novice master for the Dominican Order's St. Joseph Province and former pastor of Columbus St. Patrick Church. The rally ended, as it has for several years, with the singing of the Marian hymn Salve Regina (Hail, Holy Queen) by Dominican novices from St. Gertrude Priory in Cincinnati.



Catholic Times 8 January 30, 2022

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

# Spread love in your unique way

Psalm 71:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 15, 17 1 Corinthians 12:31–13:13 Luke 4:21-30

To be known and loved are at the heart of human desire. When we realize that we are recognized and loved in our unique identity everything else follows. We can live up to our true potential, accepting and loving ourselves, when we know that someone believes in us.

Our world has become confused about the nature of identity. Faith tells us that each human person is unique. It is a sad commentary on our times that individuals have been taught to find something that the world imposes on them as their identity.

I am not able to be – or even to discover – my true self when I have given someone or something else the power to tell me who I am. We can fall prey to this in subtle ways, not realizing that we have handed our power to another.

This is *not* to deny that there is Someone beyond ourselves Who gives us our unique identity. The Creator chooses to create us in our uniqueness. Influenced by the spirit of the age, we can leave God out of the picture as we assert our uniqueness.

We seek autonomy as our goal rather than interdependence with the One Who has loved us into being and with our brothers and sisters who are destined for life eternal in their uniqueness. We limit our horizons to this world and miss eternity.

Each human being has been created through an intimate relationship with the living God. Our personhood and true identity come from mirroring, living as expressions of some divine attribute. Our faith teaches that God makes Himself known to us through Jesus Christ.

Through the Incarnation, human

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

Father Timothy Hayes

Father Timothy M. Hayes is pastor of Chillicothe St. Mary and St. Pe-ter; and Waverly, St. Mary, Queen of the Missions.



nature has been redeemed, re-created in Christ, so that each unique human being is a facet, an expression, a word spoken into creation by God through Christ. This allows us to live in this world, with our sights set on the next.

When Jeremiah was experiencing hardship as a prophet, the word of the Lord came to him saying, "Before you were in the womb, I knew you." Jeremiah was challenged to stand firm in the identity given to him by the word he proclaimed.

Through the power of the word, Jeremiah would be a mirror held up to the people so that they could discover their identity as God's rebellious people. "I am with you to deliver you.'

Jesus Himself experienced rejection by those who thought they knew Him because He grew up among them. They were not open to the message He had for them, a challenge to see things differently. That did not stop Him from moving on from His hometown to fulfill His public ministry.

He told those in the synagogue that the text from Isaiah He had read to them was fulfilled in their hearing, and they took offense at Him. When they tried to throw Jesus over the brow of the hill on which their town stood, He simply went away.

St. Paul's hymn to love in the First Letter to the Corinthians has been heard so often (especially at weddings) that we miss the depth of its message. Once at a funeral, the priest suggested that the way to hear it for all of its meaning was to put your own name in wherever the word "love" was used.

### THE WEEKDAY BIBLE READINGS

1/31-2/5

MONDAY 2 Samuel 15:13-14,30;16:5-13 Psalm 3:2-7

**TUESDAY** 2 Samuel 18:9-10,14b,24-25a,30—19:3 Psalm 86:1-6 Mark 5:21-43

> WEDNESDAY Malachi 3:1-4 Psalm 24:7-10 Hebrews 2:14-18 Luke 2:22-40

**THURSDAY** 1 Kings 2:1-4,10-12 1 Chronicles 29:19-11b,11d-12 (Ps) Mark 6:7-13 **FRIDAY** 

Sirach 47:2-11 Psalm 18:31,47,50-51 Mark 6:14-29

> SATURDAY 1 Kings 3:4-13 Psalm 119:9-14 Mark 6:30-34

> > 2/7-2/12

MONDAY 1 Kings 8:1-7,9-13 Psalm 132:6-7,8-10 Mark 6:53-56

**TUESDAY** 1 Kings 8:22-23,27-30 Psalm 84:3-5,10-11 Mark 7:1-13

WEDNESDAY 1 Kings 10:1-10 Psalm 37:5-6,30-31,39-40 Mark 7:14-23

THURSDAY 1 Kings 11:4-13 Psalm 106:3-4,35-37,40

Mark 7:24-30 **FRIDAY** 1 Kings 11:29-32;12:19 Psalm 81:10-11b,12-15

**SATURDAY** 1 Kings12:26-32;13:33-34 Psalm 196:6-7b,19-22 Mark 8:1-10

Mark 7:31-37

### DIOCESAN WEEKLY RADIO AND TELEVISION MASS SCHEDULE: WEEKS OF JAN. 30 AND FEB. 6, 2022

SUNDAY MASS

10:30 a.m. Mass from Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on St. Gabriel Radio (AM 820), Columbus, and at www.stgabrielradio.com and diocesan website, www.columbuscatholic.org.

10:30 a.m. Mass from Portsmouth St. Mary Church on St. Gabriel Radio (FM 88.3), Portsmouth.

Mass with the Passionist Fathers at 7:30 a.m. on WWHO-TV (the CW), Channel 53, Columbus and 10:30 a.m. on WHIZ-TV, Channel 18, Zanesville. Mass from St. Francis de Sales Seminary, Milwaukee, at 10 a.m. on WWHO-TV. Check local cable system for cable channel listing.

Mass from Our Lady of the Angels Monastery, Birmingham, Ala., at 8 a.m. on EWTN (Spectrum Channel 385, Insight Channel 382, or WOW Channel 378). (Encores at noon, 7

p.m., and midnight).

Mass from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee at 6:30 a.m. on ION TV (AT&T U-verse Channel 195, Dish Network Channel 250, or DirecTV Channel 305)

Mass from Massillon St. Mary Church at 10:30 a.m. on WILB radio (AM 1060, FM 94.5 and 89.5), Canton, heard in Tuscarawas Holmes, and Coshocton counties

**DAILY MASS** 8 a.m., Our Lady of the Angels

Monastery in Birmingham, Ala. (Encores at noon, 7 p.m. and midnight). See EWTN above; and on I-Lifetv (Channel 113, Ada, Logan, Millersburg, Murray City, Washington C.H.; Channel 125, Marion, Newark, Newcomerstown and New Philadelphia; Channel 207 Zanesville); 8 p.m., St. Gabriel Radio

(AM 820), Columbus, and at www. stgabrielradio.com. 12:05 p.m. weekdays, 8 a.m. Saturdays, Mass from Columbus St. Joseph Cathedral on St. Gabriel Radio (AM 820), Columbus, and at www.stgabrielradio.com and diocesan website, www.columbuscatholic.org. (Saturdays on radio only),

Videos of Masses are available at any time on the internet at these and many other parish websites: Mattingly Settlement St. Mary (www. stannstmary,org); Columbus St. Patrick (www.stpatrickcolumbus. org): Delaware St. Mary (www. delawarestmary,org); Sunbury St. John Neumann (www.saintjohnsunbury.org); and Columbus Immaculate Conception (www.iccols.org). Check your parish website tfor additional information.

We pray Weeks IV and I of the Liturgy of the Hours.

When he put in his name, the congregation laughed, which was the effect he was looking for. But when he put in the name of the deceased person, suddenly it had a new depth.

God makes Himself known through human beings. The essential identity of the living God is love. When we allow love to shine through our persons, each of us in our unique way, something new is offered to the world.

The first surprise of the world at the early Church led to a comment: "See these Christians, how they love one another!" If only we could hear the world being surprised by our lives this way today!

Can we believe again that "love never fails"?

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

# Like Isaiah, Peter, Paul, would we say, 'Send me'?

Isaiah 6:1-2a, 3-8 Psalm 138:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 7-8 **1 Corinthians 15:1–11** Luke 5:1-11

Isaiah manifests an enthusiasm for God's word that inspires His people across many generations. The Book of the Prophet Isaiah encompasses three stages of the life of Israel: the time of the kingdom, exile and the years following exile. A scroll of Isaiah is the

most treasured discovery among the Dead Sea Scrolls found at Qumran.

The sixth chapter of Isaiah takes us into the very throne room of God. We are invited to stand with the prophet as he acknowledges his unworthiness and ours to be in God's Presence. We are also offered the deep awareness of God's power to purify our unclean lips. We can almost feel the burning ember brought to the lips of Isaiah.

The prophet's spontaneous response

to God's question, "Whom shall I send?" offers us an example and an invitation to join him in the proclamation of the word of God. "Here I am, send me!'

Isaiah's vision takes us into the heavenly realm, where all that happens on earth is decided. After his call and response, Isaiah is thoroughly engaged in his world. His words – as the word of God proclaimed – affected the political situation of his time and were so powerful that they were written on scrolls and carried with the people. They have been handed on to

A few weeks ago, we saw Jesus in the synagogue at Nazareth proclaiming the fulfillment of the words of Isaiah. Now we see Jesus again, this time in Peter's boat and in Paul's experience of the risen Lord at the end

See SEND ME, Page 9

January 30, 2022 Catholic Times 9

### Local news and events

### Plain City St. Joseph parish collects caps to recycle into benches for rosary garden

Led by the students in the Parish School of torium. Religion, Plain City St. Joseph Church has begun a Caps to Benches for the Rosary Garden project.

Since May 2021, the recycling collection program to collect container caps for benches has brought in more than 771 pounds of caps. The parish recently purchased the first two benches for the rosary garden. Plans call for 10 benches to be placed around the garden.

To purchase the remaining eight benches from in the program with http://plasticsrunique.com, the parish must collect 200 pounds of caps per six-foot bench.

For more information, contact Amy Colopy at bulletin@stjosephpc.org.

### Newark Catholic High School to perform 'The Little Mermaid'

Newark Catholic High School's drama department will present Disney's The Little Mermaid on Jan. 28-30 in the school's audi-

Show times are 7:30 p.m. Jan. 28 and 29 and 6:30 p.m. Jan. 30.

General admission tickets may be purchased from the front office at the high school until Jan. 28 at \$15 each. All remaining tickets will be available at the door.

### Catholic Singles on Fire for Christ to host trivia night in February

Catholic Singles on Fire for Christ is planning a Trivia Night at Columbus St. Patrick Church, 280 N. Grant Ave., at 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 5 in Patrick Hall.

Cost is \$5. Food and beverages will be available for purchase. Space is limited. RSVP by Feb. 1.

The group welcomes those who are 35 and older and never married, annulled or wid- CATHOLIC WORD SEARCH owed who want a deeper relationship with Christ.

Contact David at ig88@aol.com.



Pictured is one of 10 benches made from recycled material that will be included in a rosary garden at Plain City St. Joseph Church. Photo courtesy Plain City St. Joseph

### THOMAS AQUINAS

KGUQJ EEETRSI

**ALBERT** ARISTOTLE **CATHOLIC SCHOOL** DOCTOR **DOCTRINE** 

**DOMINICAN DUMBOX FAITH NAPLES PHILOSOPHER** 

**REASON SUMMA TEACHER THOMIST** WRITER

### **SEND ME,** continued from Page 8

of a long line of witnesses. The respective encounters between Peter and Paul and the Lord show us that Jesus' mission continues to establish the link between heaven and

Both Peter and Paul have their own stories of sin and grace. Their resistance to God's touch due to their human weakness and in the end the faithful witness they gave through their martyrdom – Peter on a cross, Paul by the sword – show the power of the Gospel to transform lives.

God's word is living. It flows from God and into the world. Even in our times, we can discover the power of that word. It clears away the blindness caused by sin. It purifies the heart that is open to receive it. It opens the lips of the one who is purified to proclaim it to the world.

We often experience the feeling that we have, like Peter, "worked hard all night but caught nothing." Like Paul, we come to realize that our narrow way of thinking can stand in the way of our fulfillment of God's will in our lives. Their witness gives us courage to believe that we can still find a way to move forward in our life with Christ.

It is important to acknowledge the sinful

state of the world and our own failure to live in accord with God's plan for His people. But it is even more important to allow the power of God to purify and heal us. God makes available to us many "embers," the burning coals that wipe away our sins and free us to respond to His grace.

The New Evangelization called for by Pope Francis and his predecessors invites us to show new zeal, new ardor and to make use of new means to share the Gospel with the world. Our lives must keep in view our destination. "In the sight of the angels I will sing your praises, Lord." But we must also be open to the grace that is offered to us in the midst of the world to become proclaimers of the word.

"Here I am!" implies standing firmly with our feet on the ground, aware of the limitations that remain in our way. "Send me!" is a cry of the heart that opens to the action of grace and admits a willingness to be transformed. With Isaiah, Peter and Paul, and with all prophets and proclaimers of the word of the Lord, we want to be ready to claim the world for Christ. God's own zeal is at work in us.



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# PRAY FOR OUR DEAD

BAKER, Betty J. (Johnson), 98, Dec. 29 Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Grove City

**BIERL**, Phyllis J. (Norris), 84, Dec. 25 St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

**BISCIOTTI**, Phillip "PG," Dec. 31 Our Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Columbus

**BOLLON**, Fred, 94, Dec. 31 Immaculate Conception Church, Dennison

CALL, Larry, 93, formerly of Columbus, Dec. 19 Holy Family Church, Stow

**CAVENDISH**, Mary M. (Oberting), 56, Jan. 6 St. Christopher Church, Columbus

COOK, Harvey W. III "Trip," 71, Jan. 8 St. Elizabeth Seton Parish, Pickerington

**FALKENBACH**, Paul M., 64, Jan. 16 St. Agatha Church, Columbus

FULLER, Rosa A. (Susi), 75, Jan. 12 St. John the Baptist Church, Columbus

**GAAL**, Perry, 65, Jan. 10 St. Andrew Church, Columbus

**GATTS**, Denise M. (Sybert), 59, Jan. 12 St. Joan of Arc Church, Powell

**GOODBURN**, George J., 46, Jan. 11 St. Timothy Church, Columbus

**HOLLERN**, Alice M. (Zuber), 94, Jan. 8 St. Timothy Church, Columbus

**HORNER**, Joseph B., 66, Jan. 17 St. Patrick Church, Columbus

**LEWIS**, Donald J., 89, Jan. 11 St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

LOSEY, Nancy (Motts), 87, Jan. 15 St. Mary Church, Delaware

MacARTHUR, Stephen P., 65, Jan. 9 St. Andrew Church, Columbus MATOL, Genuina A., 99, Dec. 31 St. Aloysius Church, Columbus

McGARVEY, Francis L., 83, Jan. 17 St. Matthias Church, Columbus

McGINTY, John, 86, Jan. 4 Resurrection Cemetery Chapel, Lewis Center

METZGER, Charles E."Chuck," 79, Jan. 17 St. Patrick Church, Junction City

MILLER, Rita C. (Vaughan), 81, Jan. 8 St. Joseph Church, Dover

**OGERSHOK**, Joan B., 87, Jan. 22 St. Pius X Church, Reynoldsburg

OHLER, Betty J., 98, Jan. 17 St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

O'TOOLE, Josephine, 92, Jan. 14 St. Nicholas Church, Zanesville **PORTER**, Aileen, 84, Jan. 11 St. Paul Church, Westerville

**REDMOND**, Robert F., 94, Jan. 5 St. Agatha Church, Columbus

ROBINS, Rosella (McCort), 99, Jan. 13 St. Agnes Church, Columbus

**SBROCHI**, Fausto J., 98, Jan. 13 St. Christopher Church, Columbus

SCHERER, Linda L. (Hamilton), 75, Jan. 16 St. Francis de Sales Church, Newark

SCHOLL, Barbara A. (Lathrope), 89, Jan. 9 St. James the Less Church, Columbus

**SHIPSKY**, Margaret M. (Jacob), 95, Jan. 12 Church of the Resurrection, New Albany

STEPHENS, John C., 97, Dec. 12 Holy Family Church, Columbus

WALDMAN, John A., 85, Jan. 14 St. Cecilia Church, Columbus

### **CATHOLIC CEMETERIES**

# Spring Clean-up!

**CEMETERY** field workers will be removing winter-time and artificial decorations from graves and mausoleums at all Catholic cemeteries beginning March 1, 2022.

**W**E request that families wishing to retain any personal keepsakes, to please remove them by March I.

**D**UE to the number of decorations involved, the cemetery staff can not be responsible for collecting or storing personal items. Thank you for your cooperation.

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### Joseph R. Lumpe

A private funeral Mass will be celebrated for Joseph R. Lumpe, 88, who died Saturday, Jan. 22. Burial will be at St. Joseph Cemetery, Columbus.

He was born on Jan. 10, 1934 to Everett and Mary Lumpe and was a graduate of Columbus Holy Rosary High School, Ohio State University and the Capital University law school.

He was an attorney who served as legal assistant for the Columbus city attorney, a Franklin County assistant prosecutor and an assistant state attorney general. In the private sector, he was a partner for more than 50 years of the firm of Lumpe, Raber and Evans. Until his retirement, he was

general counsel for the Wholesale Beer and Wine Association of Ohio. At the time of his death, he was in his second term as a member of the State Employee Relations Board.

He was preceded in death by his parents and brothers, George and Robert. Survivors include his wife, Shirley; sons, Father Michael Lumpe, vice rector of the College of Liberal Arts at the Pontifical College Josephinum and diocesan vicar for senior and infirm priests, and John (Lisa); daughter, Mary Jo (Barry) Schreiber; three grandsons and one granddaughter.

### James M. Kennedy

A memorial Mass for James M. Kennedy, 87, who died Tuesday, Jan. 11, will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 14 at Granville St. Edward Church. Burial was at Welsh Hills Cemetery, Newark.

He was born in Granville to the late Francis and Phyllis Kennedy and was a graduate of Deerfield (Massachusetts) Academy, Denison University, where he was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity, and the American Institute of Banking.

He was president and a board member of the Englefield Oil Co., helped establish and served as chairperson of The Catholic Foundation, and re-

ceived the *Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice* award from Pope St. John Paul Paul II. He also served on the boards of Newark Catholic High School and its athletic association and hall of fame, County Savings Bank, the Newark Trust Co. and the Newark Salvation Army, chaired the original Newark Catholic Foundation, raised funds for the original Ohio State University Newark campus and was a member of the Newark Chamber of Commerce and the Newark Rotary Club.

Survivors include his wife, Mary (Leech); sons, James (Christy Price), Thomas and Francis (Nikki); one grandson and one granddaughter.

January 30, 2022 Catholic Times 11

# Lay evangelist with Columbus links continues work in Belize

By Tim Puet For The Catholic Times

Manuela Lue, a lay evangelist with longstanding ties to the Diocese of Columbus, will be returning to central Ohio sometime this year from her native Belize to visit the diocesan Missions Office and to raise funds for a mission church in a remote area of the Central American nation.

Lue learned to make rosaries in 2002 from Irene Cassady of Columbus while Lue was working as a financial analyst for Nationwide and attending Eucharistic Adoration at Immaculate Conception Church.

She sent hundreds of rosaries to her homeland, and when she returned there, she began a mission that placed about 40,000 rosaries in the hands of students in all 130 Catholic schools in Belize, formerly British Honduras.

Lue and her aunt Thomasita Asevedo took 10 years, from 2008 to 2018, to complete the mission with the help of visitors and volunteers.

Support for her work from Columbus has come from the Missions Office; its former director, Leandro "Lany" Tapay, and its current director, Sister Zephrina Mary GracyKutty, FIH; and from Earl and Carol Crosby of Worthington St. Michael Church; Al and Irene Cassady of St. Patrick

Church; Joseph Rayen of St. Peter Church; and Theresa Thompson of Immaculate Conception Church.

Lue continued to make rosaries for first Holy Communion and confirmation classes at St. Joseph School in Belize City until the COVID-19 pandemic closed schools throughout the country for much of 2020 and 2021.

Schools reopened in January 2022 on a hybrid basis – some online, some in-person. She became involved with prison ministry in 2019 and 2020 and continues to promote the rosary through evangelization in parks and on the streets.

Her most recent trip to Columbus was in 2020, when she visited the Missions Office and several of her supporters and went on a retreat with the Children of Mary apostolate of women in Newark. In 2019, she attended World Youth Day in Panama.

Lue, her aunt and father had the coronavirus in 2021. Her aunt was hospitalized for 15 days and bedridden for two months. She is walking now and continuing to recover at home.

This past October, Lue promoted the Aid to the Church in Need campaign, which aimed to have 1 million children worldwide praying the rosary on Oct. 18, the Feast of St. Luke, inviting them to remember the words of Our Lady of Fatima that the childlike, trusting prayer of the rosary can change the



Father Selvin Garcia (left) and Manuela Lue with rosaries made for a prison ministry in Belize. *Photo courtesy Manuela Lue*.

world, defeat evil and bring peace. Lue said 1,434 people from Belize took part in the activity that day.

In December of last year, she put together packages for retreats and Christmas packages for churches in various sections of Belize. She also continues to write for the Christian Herald, that nation's Catholic newspaper.

Her current fundraising effort involves a new church building in the village of San Pablo. The village consists of 35 Catholic families, mainly of the Q'eqchi people, who are of Mayan descent. Lue became the godmother of three Q'eqchi children in 2019.

The site where the church has been built is nine miles off the nearest paved road and is accessible by driving on dirt roads through banana farms. Once arriving at the site, visitors can view a beautiful river and waterfall.

Besides contributing to the church building fund, villagers are cooking and selling food to raise money locally. They are being led by catechist Juan Salam, who has one brother, Father Vicente Salam, who is a missionary priest, and another brother, Deacon Mateo Salam, studying at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary in St. Louis.

The church is next to a school and will be used for school events and as a hurricane shelter. The building is complete and is awaiting paint and floor tile. Beyond that, it has no pews, altar furniture, statues, stations of the cross or essential liturgical items. Lue is raising funds for those and continuing work toward a long-held goal of building a Catholic bookstore and rosary center next to her home.

Besides her activities with the Church, Lue has been honored for her work with young people. She was employed by Belize Natural Energy Ltd. as a financial analyst from 2007 to 2017. In 2016, the British Commonwealth honored her as its Youth Worker of the Year among Commonwealth nations in the Caribbean and the Americas. She was chosen for her efforts with the company's Energy for Life program, where she was helping young people become community leaders and entrepreneurs.

She received a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration, finance and economics from John Carroll University in suburban Cleveland in 1994 and a Master of Business Administration degree with distinction in international banking and finance from the University of Birmingham, England in 2000.

To donate to the San Pablo church project, contact juansalamsp@gmail. com. For more information about Lue's ongoing Mary's Little Jewel rosary mission, visit www.rosariesandmorebz.org.

# Women's retreat with Bridgettine Sisters



Approximately 75 Catholic women participated in a mini-retreat, or morning of reflection, led by Father Stash Dailey, pastor at Columbus Holy Family Church, on Saturday, Jan. 8 at the Bridgettine Sisters convent adjacent to the church. The morning began with Mass at 9 a.m., followed by a light breakfast and fellowship with the Bridgettines. Each of the sisters was introduced and the group sang Christmas carols to celebrate the end of the liturgical season. Father Dailey's reflection focused on the Epiphany. After the talk, Father Dailey and the Bridgettines entertained questions from the guests.

**Photos courtesy Jody White** 





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